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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/974,838	10/12/2001	Toshio Kitazawa	214892US-2	7380
22850	7590	01/25/2007	EXAMINER	
OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			MILIA, MARK R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2625	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE		
3 MONTHS	01/25/2007	PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/974,838	KITAZAWA, TOSHIO	
	Examiner Mark R. Milia	Art Unit 2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 November 2006.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 15-19 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d)-or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 11/29/06 has been entered. Currently, claims 1-19 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-14 have been considered but are moot in view of the current amendment to the claims and therefore a new ground(s) of rejection will be made.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

4. Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Richter (US 6678068) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5805166 to Hall, Jr. et al.

Regarding claims 1 and 14, Richter discloses a printing apparatus comprising: image data input means for receiving input data (see Figs. 4 and 6, column 5 lines 7-9, and column 7 lines 40-42), image data processing means for processing the image data and drawing the image data in an image memory unit (see Figs. 4 and 6, column 7 lines 58-62, and column 8 lines 1-4), printing means for forming an image on a transfer sheet using the image data drawn in the image memory unit (see Figs. 4 and 6, column 5 lines 7-9, column 6 lines 9-29, column 7 lines 33-39, and column 8 lines 1-3), and display means for displaying, either dynamically or successively, which different processes the image data is undergoing at any given moment, beginning with image data reception and ending with image data printing, the display means comprising a plurality of display components from image data reception to data printing that indicate the different processes from image data reception to data printing and that are displayed simultaneously on a display portion (see Figs. 7-20, and 26-27, column 11 lines 46-58, column 10 line 48-column 11 line 6, and column 20 line 36-column 21 line 13, reference shows that a display is used to display messages concerning the state of an image file such as "spooling", "waiting to rip", "ripping", "waiting to print", and "printing" and that a display of queues can be viewed to show which queue image data is currently in, which sufficiently cover at any given moment which process image data is undergoing).

Richter does not disclose expressly the display means comprising a plurality of different individual distinct display components aligned in a successive progression from image data reception to data printing to successively indicate the different processes and wherein the display is part of a printing apparatus.

Hall discloses the display means comprising a plurality of different individual distinct display components aligned in a successive progression from image data reception to data printing to successively indicate the different processes (see Figs. 2A-2H, column 2 lines 26-52, column 2 line 66-column 3 line 8, column 4 lines 21-26, column 4 line 48-column 5 line 29, column 5 line 41-column 6 line 3, and column 6 line 64-column 7 line 3).

Although Richter does not disclose wherein the display is part of the printing apparatus it is well known in the art for printing devices to contain a display as can be seen by Canon's imageRUNNER 5000 series user's guide (see pages 5-13 to 5-27, particularly pages 5-13, 5-14, 5-18, and 5-22), and therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate a display as part of the printing apparatus.

Richter & Hall are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor, displaying the status of peripheral devices.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the plurality of different individual distinct display components aligned in a successive progression to successively indicate the different processes being displayed simultaneously on a display portion, as described by Hall and the

display being part of the printing apparatus to view the different processes the image data is undergoing, as shown by Canon's imageRUNNER 5000 series user's guide, with the system of Richter.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to provide easier accessibility to the status of image data by allowing a user to access the information from the printing device in addition to accessing this information for the user's workstation or print server.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Hall with Richter to obtain the invention as specified in claims 1 and 14.

Regarding claim 2, Richter further discloses wherein the display means comprises as one of the plurality of display components a spooling display component that indicates dynamically that the image data is in the process of being received by the printing apparatus (see column 11 lines 51-54).

Regarding claim 3, Richter further discloses wherein the display means comprises as one of the plurality of display components a drawing display component that indicates dynamically that the image data is in the process of being drawn in the image memory unit of the printing apparatus (see Fig. 12, column 7 lines 58-62, column 8 lines 1-4, and column 11 lines 51-54, reference shows a display message that refers to the ripping process which is analogous to the drawing process of the claim and therefore is anticipated by the reference).

Regarding claim 4, Richter further discloses wherein the display means comprises as one of the plurality of display components a printing display component that indicates dynamically that the image data is in the process of being printed by the printing apparatus (see column 11 lines 51-54).

Regarding claim 5, Richter further discloses wherein the display means comprises as one of the plurality of display components a spool data display component that indicates successively an amount of unprocessed image data not yet drawn in the image memory unit from among that image data which has been received by the printing apparatus (see Figs. 26 and 27 and column 20 lines 46-49).

Regarding claim 6, Richter further discloses wherein the display means comprises as one of the plurality of display components a spool data display component that displays the amount of unprocessed image data on a per-print-job basis (see Figs. 26 and 27 and column 20 lines 46-49).

Regarding claim 7, Richter further discloses wherein the display means comprises as one of the plurality of display components a drawing page display component that displays pages of image data in the process of being drawn in the image memory component of the printing apparatus (see Fig. 29 and column 21 lines 51-61).

Regarding claim 8, Richter further discloses wherein the display means comprises as one of the plurality of display components a printed page display component that displays pages of image data in the process of being printed by the printing apparatus (see Fig. 29 and column 8 lines 8-10 and 51-61).

Regarding claim 9, Richter further discloses wherein the display means comprises as one of the plurality of display components a saved job display component that displays a list of print jobs stored in the image memory component of the printing apparatus (see column 8 lines 1-4).

Regarding claim 10, Richter further discloses a selectable plurality of supply trays for containing transfer sheets ready to be sent to the printing means, wherein the display means comprises as one of the plurality of display components a supply tray display component that indicates a selected one of the supply trays (see Fig. 15 and column 12 lines 27-38).

Regarding claim 11, Richter further discloses a selectable plurality of exit trays for receiving printed transfer sheets exited from the printing means, wherein the display means comprises as one of the plurality of display components an exit tray display component that indicates a selected one of the exit trays (see Fig. 17 and column 12 lines 56-64).

Regarding claim 12, Richter further discloses wherein the display means displays a graphic image message that indicates which process the image data is undergoing at any given moment, beginning with image data reception and ending with image data printing (see Fig. 12 and column 11 lines 46-58).

Regarding claim 13, Richter further discloses wherein the display means displays a text message that indicates which process the image data is undergoing at any given moment, beginning with image data reception and ending with image data printing (see Fig. 12 and column 11 lines 46-58).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 15-19 are allowed. The reasons for allowing claims 15-19 were given in the previous Office Action.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark R. Milia whose telephone number is (571) 272-7408. The examiner can normally be reached M-F 8:00am-4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Twyler M. Lamb can be reached at (571) 272-7406. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Mark R. Milia
Examiner
Art Unit 2625



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